

## **The Apostolic Guardian Church of Grace and Blessing**

Welcome to the Apostolic Guardian Church of Grace and Blessing! The mission of the Church is to serve as a mystic vehicle for the teaching, practice and empowerment of the Great Work. The Great Work is understood to be the raising of All Beings to Full Awareness of *Light, Life, and Love*.

Our teachings, practices, and celebrations of the Sacraments, emphasize Apostolic, Chivalric, and Initiatic education and training for esoteric world service to those seeking further spiritual development, and/or those wishing to enter Holy Orders.

We are an independent mystical expression of the one Holy Catholic Apostolic Church. We believe there is only one God, however known and worshipped; hence, there is only one holy universal Church, regardless of cultural form.

The Church was founded by the joint efforts of Archbishop and Patriarch of the Church, Bishop Timothy A. Storlie and Jean de Cabilis, Senior Guardian of the 12 Century French Guardians of Grace, Blessing and Sustenance. Rev. Timothy A. Storlie holds Apostolic succession in all 22 extant lines, including the Antiochian-Jacobite Succession (Eastern Orthodox) extending back through 135 bishops to the Apostle Peter, and the Roman-Old Catholic Succession (Western Catholic) going back through 262 bishops, also to the Apostle Peter.

The theology of the Church is grounded in a core set of seed thoughts (not required articles of faith). These include:

- We affirm that the Most High One God is all there is, all there ever was, and all there will ever be. All Things are One Thing. All are part of the One That Is.
- We affirm our oneness with the Most High and with each other. There is no separation.
- We acknowledge that ours is but one way, not the only way. We honor and respect all genuine teachers, prophets, and Masters of Wisdom and Compassion. As Christian mystics, we accept Master Jesus as our guide, model, Hierophant and spiritual elder brother. We view the Divinity which manifested in Master Jesus as differing in development, but not in quality, from that which is latent in each one of us. For us, He is the Great Example, not the exception. Our view of Master Jesus--Jeshua ben Miriam, is grounded in an alternative image that flows from contemporary biblical research, esoteric streams of Christian mysticism, and Western Mystery schools. The focus is not about "believing in" Jesus but upon developing a deep, living relationship with his teachings and with the Divinity he knew so intimately--the Sacred Unity he called Allaha (in Aramaic, his native language).
- We embrace a theology of humility which acknowledges there is much we don't know/understand, a theology of free will, equality, community, compassion, and cooperation with Divine Light, Life, and Love leading to peace, unity, joy, Self/God Realization, and the individual and collective remembrance of Who we are--offspring of the Most High One--El Elyon (in Hebrew).
- We resolve to be a source and force for a living, evolving spirituality that embraces the best of traditional beliefs/practices while refreshing and extending them.

Our mission is to facilitate the development of an open, interactive, and friendly environment where like-minded individuals can meet (in-person or online) and support one another in deepening their spiritual walking.

All sincere seekers are welcome to participate in our programs, services, and celebration of the Sacraments. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all who approach the altar with reverence regardless of Church membership. Training for Holy Orders (Minor or Major) is available to all Church members regardless of gender.

If you feel drawn to our teachings, our theology, and our theurgy, please apply to become a Lay Reader of the Church. A Lay Reader is a member of the sub-deaconate, the first of the minor orders. Lay Readers are provided training materials, a self-dedication Rite, and access to further materials without cost. Lay Readers also have the option and opportunity to explore entering into the Major Orders of the Church—Deaconate (Deacon), Priesthood (Priest), and Episcopate (Bishop).

Thank you for considering the Apostolic Guardian Church. Please feel free to look around our public documents and get to know us a little. If you feel you would like to join our group, please write a one-page letter of introduction and tell us a little about yourself and why you wish to join the Church. By writing us a letter you are asking to be admitted as a Lay Reader of the Church. This is the only requirement for Church membership and all members are at least Lay Readers.

We hope this introductory material has answered some of your questions and we hope to hear more from you.

May the Peace, Grace, and Blessings of the Most High be with you!

Rt. Rev. Timothy A. Storlie

Jean de Cabilis, SG